

I urge you, Mr. Speaker, and all of my colleagues to pass this critical legislation quickly into law.

**WOMEN'S OB/GYN MEDICAL ACCESS NOW ACT
(WOMAN ACT)
BILL SUMMARY**

Grants Direct Access: Gives women direct access to an OB/GYN or a participating family practice physician or surgeon designated by the plan or issuer as providing OB/GYN services. Prohibits plans or issuers from requiring a referral or prior approval.

Plan Considerations: Plan can set reasonable communication requirements between OB/GYNs and primary care physician. Plan can set reasonable utilization protocols, as long as those protocols are the same for OB/GYNs as they are for other physicians, such as primary care providers. (cannot be more restrictive for OB/GYNs)

Nodification for ERISA plans: Requires group health plans to comply with the notice requirements for ERISA when they modify their plan to comply with the rule.

**CHANGES TO TITLE IX ATHLETICS
POLICIES CONTRADICT THE
SPIRIT OF ATHLETIC QUALITY
AND GENDER PARITY AND
SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED,
AND TITLE IX SHOULD BE KEPT
INTACT**

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, June 19, 2002 marked the 30th Anniversary of the passing of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This legislation was introduced and tirelessly fought for by my late colleague and friend the Honorable Patsy Mink of Hawaii. Congresswoman Mink left a legacy for us to continue, one which demands our continued diligence in promoting and maintaining gender equality. Since its passing, Title IX has been crucial in setting a standard of equal education opportunities.

Today, and as a result of Title IX, the opportunities that women enjoy far surpass those of previous generations. These accomplishments are being threatened by current recommendations to implement changes to Title IX athletic policies that contradict the spirit of athletic equality and gender parity. We cannot allow this to happen.

Some argue that Title IX has accomplished all its goals and some even suggest that it has exceeded what it was set forth to accomplish. The reality Mr. Speaker, is that while great strides have been made to level the playing field for women in sports we have not achieved complete gender equity in athletics. Data from the NCAA 1999–2000 Gender Equity Report shows that female athletes in Division I schools receive only 41% of the opportunities to play intercollegiate sports, 43% of the total athletic scholarship dollars, 36% of the athletic operating budgets, and 32% of the dollars spent to recruit new athletes.

Additionally Mr. Speaker, Title IX does not deprive men of athletic resources, nor has men's participation in athletics suffered as a result of Title IX. In fact, by 2001 male participation in collegiate sports rose 22.6% from 1972. In 2000, for every dollar being spent on women's sport, Division I schools were spend-

ing almost two dollars on men's sports. In limited situations where men's athletic teams have been cut, it is often due to a lack of support for those teams combined with inflated budgets for football and men's basketball teams.

Given these realities, changes to Title IX would be premature and a set-back to the work we have accomplished over the last 30 years. The task laid at our feet by the Honorable Patsy Mink to fight for gender equality requires us to make sure that the advances women have made as a result of the implementation of Title IX do not overshadow the fact that our work is not complete. Therefore I urge my colleagues to support the intent of this resolution.

TITLE IX

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to voice my opposition to any efforts to change Title IX. For over 30 years, Title IX has been a successful program that has helped open doors for women in education and employment. I don't understand how people can argue with success and try to change such an important piece of legislation.

Times have changed in this nation for competitive sports, and it is all because of Title IX. Title IX has helped change assumptions and attitudes about sexual stereotypes. It is hard to comprehend that less than 30 years ago people believed women were physically incapable of running the marathon. It was believed that female body composition made it impossible for them to run long distances! It wasn't until women began defying this irrational and unfounded notion by competing anyway that the world took notice and a crippling stereotype died. It is a myth that women are not interested in sports or competition. It is a myth that women would rather be cheering on the sidelines than competing on the field, the court, the green, track, or the diamond. Any effort to repeal a program that allows access to sports and education for women reincarnates myths and stereotypes that should have been put to rest decades ago.

Title IX has helped knock down the senseless barriers that have prevented women from engaging in competition by requiring that equal funding be contributed to women's sports throughout all levels of education. Girls have an equal right with boys to receive at a minimum a basic education and to compete for scholarships—whether they are academic or athletic. Since 1972, the number of women playing collegiate sports has quadrupled! And the number of girls playing high school sports has increased to 3 million in the 30 years that Title IX has been on the books. Before Title IX was enacted, only 300,000 high school girls competed. The principle of equality requires that women be provided equal access and equal opportunity for education and sports.

My 16-year-old daughter Jennifer plays on her high school golf team. Before Title IX, a girl's golf team in most schools would never have existed. Before Title IX many women weren't even allowed to step foot on a green!

I want my daughter and the daughters of every family in the nation to have the right and the opportunity to compete and receive scholarships if their heart desires.

It is a myth that the requirements of Title IX take away funding for male sports teams! The overwhelming majority of funding available goes to support college football and college basketball. Furthermore, in 30 years we have seen the number of college baseball teams increase exponentially! If it were true that Title IX robs funding from male sports teams then why is it that for every dollar spent on women's collegiate sports, two dollars are spent for the male teams? We need to stop the myths about Title IX and allow the program to remain intact.

No longer do young girls need to hide their hair in a cap and pretend to be boys if they want to play ball. No longer do we harbor under the misconception that women can't and don't want to play. Title IX was a bold step toward equality and it was a necessary element toward achieving fairness. Sports teach us how to win with integrity and how to lose with grace. They teach us healthy competition and how to strategize for success. They help promote healthy exercise and lifestyles. Women need to be offered the opportunity to enrich their lives by playing sports. We need to keep Title IX in play.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID KEELEY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Keeley for his tireless leadership over two decades in the field of coastal resource management and to congratulate him for receiving the 2003 Walter B. Jones Memorial Award for Coastal Steward of the Year.

For over 25 years, Mr. Keeley has worked at the local, state and regional level in environmental management, policy development and planning with an emphasis on coastal and estuarine issues. Over thirteen years ago, Mr. Keeley created the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, a voluntary regional governance structure that includes the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, and the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as well as representatives from Canadian and U.S. federal agencies. The Council is an excellent example of a bilateral regional governance organization and is one of the best in North America. It is also a wonderful example of David's dedication and leadership. The success of the Council can be, in large part, directly attributed to the activism and involvement of Mr. Keeley, who nurtured, encouraged and challenged the group to succeed. Like so many other coastal issues and projects in which David becomes involved, the Council is where it is today because of his long-term guidance and support, and his unwavering ability to question, respond, and deliver. For all of his hard work and dedication, David was recently honored with the 2003 Walter B. Jones Memorial Award for Coastal Steward of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Maine is honored, grateful and fortunate to have a devoted citizen like David Keeley. His tireless work to protect our coastal